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Identical letters dated 16 February 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and further to our previous letters, of which the most recent was dated 14 February 2016, I should like to draw your attention to alarming information about continued Turkish violations and attacks against the sovereignty and territory of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Turkish regime forces recently seized more than 2,000 dunums of land inside Syrian territory along the length of the border with the Harim area as far as the last border village, called Tulul, in the Salqin district. That is an area 30 m wide and 20 km long, which they have cleared of trees.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic strongly condemns Turkey's repeated crimes and acts of aggression against the Syrian people and the territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic. Such actions are a bare-faced violation of Syrian sovereignty. They also flagrantly contravene the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law. The Syrian Government reiterates that it reserves its legitimate right to respond to Turkey's repeated crimes, violations and acts of aggression and to demand compensation for all of the resulting damages.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic once again emphasizes that the Security Council must fulfil its responsibility to maintain international peace and security by compelling the Turkish regime to implement the relevant Security Council resolutions, all of which affirm the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic, and by taking the necessary measures to put an end to the Turkish regime's repeated crimes and attacks against Syrian territory, which are described above.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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